To: Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
GN Docket No. 25-133
Subject: Preservation of Amateur Radio Spectrum Amid Deregulation Efforts

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to express my strong concern regarding the potential impact of the FCC's ongoing deregulatory review on the amateur radio service. As the Commission considers eliminating or modifying existing regulations, I urge you to recognize the vital role amateur radio plays in hobbyist innovation, STEM education, and emergency communications—and to ensure that no part of the amateur radio spectrum is reallocated for commercial interests.

1. Amateur Radio is a National Resource for Emergency Communications

For decades, amateur radio operators have provided life-saving emergency communications during hurricanes, wildfires, tornadoes, and other disasters. Organizations like SKYWARN, ARES, and RACES work alongside local, state, and federal emergency agencies to provide real-time information when traditional communication systems fail.

Amateur radio is not just a backup—it is often the first and only communication method available in the critical hours after a disaster. Unlike commercial services, amateur operators require no reliance on corporate infrastructure, making it one of the most resilient emergency communication tools in the country.

A reduction in available spectrum or an increase in commercial encroachment could severely impact amateur radio's ability to provide this essential public service.

2. Amateur Radio is a Gateway to STEM and Technological Innovation

Amateur radio has long been a training ground for the next generation of engineers, scientists, and radio technologists. Many of today's leaders in wireless communication, aerospace, and cybersecurity got their start in amateur radio.

- The FCC itself has acknowledged amateur radio's role in fostering technical skills that directly contribute to advancements in telecommunications, satellite development, and emergency response systems.

- Amateur radio operators pioneered digital communication technologies, including packet radio, APRS, and digital voice modes that now influence commercial and government systems.
- The hands-on nature of amateur radio provides an unparalleled educational experience in physics, electrical engineering, and digital signal processing, bridging the gap between theory and real-world application.

Reducing amateur spectrum or allowing commercial interference would directly undermine these educational and technological contributions.

3. Deregulation Must Not Sacrifice Public Interest for Corporate Gain

In past decades, FCC deregulation efforts led to significant spectrum sell-offs to commercial interests, often with negative consequences for the public. While commercial wireless growth is important, it must not come at the cost of weakening critical, non-commercial services like amateur radio.

Amateur radio does not exist for profit—it exists to serve the public good, education, and emergency preparedness. Any rule changes that jeopardize this spectrum for short-term commercial gain would be a fundamental mistake that could not be undone.

4. Conclusion: Protect the Amateur Radio Service

I urge the Commission to explicitly protect the existing amateur radio allocations from any commercial reallocation or deregulation that could harm its effectiveness. The technical expertise, educational benefits, and emergency service contributions of the amateur radio community far outweigh any perceived benefits of commercial encroachment on this spectrum.

The FCC has long recognized amateur radio's unique role in American society. I respectfully request that the Commission affirm its commitment to preserving amateur spectrum and ensuring that deregulation efforts do not diminish this critical national resource.

Sincerely,
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